Violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean must be addressed comprehensively by States, taking into account factors of economic, social and cultural inequality that operate in society and in the power relations between men and women.

**IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY**

The average costs of domestic violence among couples in the region vary between:

- 1.6% of GDP in Nicaragua
- 3.7% of GDP in Peru

(Source: IDB, 2015)

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

20 countries have laws on violence against women but only 8 countries (40%) allocate specific resources in their national budgets.

**POLITICAL HARASSMENT**

In Bolivia, the only country that has specific legislation against political harassment, there were 272 cases of political violence against councilwomen in 170 municipalities in 2014.

(Source: ACOBOL, 2014)

In Peru, 4 out of every 10 female authorities were victims of political harassment of some kind in 2012.

(Source: National Jury of Elections, 2012)

**HARASSMENT IN PUBLIC SPACES**

**The street**

- **Lima**: 9 out of every 10 women between 18 and 29 years old have been victims of street harassment (2013)
- **Santiago, Chile**: 9 out of every 10 women between 18 and 29 years old have been victims of street harassment (2013)

**Transportation**

- **Bogota and Mexico City**: 6 out of every 10 women have experienced some kind of aggression or sexual harassment while using public transportation
- **Lima**: 6 out of every 10 women have experienced some kind of sexual harassment while using public transportation

(Source: ACOBOL, 2014)

(Source: National Jury of Elections, 2012)

**Recommendations**

- Oversee the implementation of laws to prevent, penalize and eradicate violence against women.
- Legislate on political harassment to guarantee the egalitarian exercise of women’s political rights.
- Move forward on specific legislation against abuse and sexual harassment in public spaces.

Source: ECLAC’s Gender Equality Observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean

More information on: Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
- [http://www.cepal.org/12conferenciamujer/default.asp?idioma=IN](http://www.cepal.org/12conferenciamujer/default.asp?idioma=IN)